



# SENATOR ROBERT D. GARTON

serving district 41: bartholomew and johnson counties

200 W. Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 • [www.in.gov/S41](http://www.in.gov/S41)

## Daylight Saving Time Has a Long History

Throughout the past year, Governor Mitch Daniels has vocalized his desire that state observe Daylight Saving Time (DST). The ultimate decision to put Indiana on DST, however, will fall on the shoulders of the Indiana General Assembly.

Indiana is one of only three states that do not change the clocks twice a year. In our state, 82 counties are in the Eastern Time Zone and 10 counties are in the Central Time Zone. There are five counties in southeast Indiana (Clark, Dearborn, Floyd, Harrison and Ohio) that observe DST in the Eastern Time Zone. In northwest Indiana, there are five counties (Lake, LaPorte, Jasper, Newton and Porter) and in southwest Indiana, there are five counties (Gibson, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick) that observe DST in the Central Time Zone. This means that across our state, there are three different times being observed throughout the course of the year.

"Surveys across the state have shown that Hoosiers are split evenly on whether or not we should observe daylight saving time."

The battle of DST originated around 1946 when a state law was passed prohibiting the use of any time other than Central Standard Time (CST) by the state or local governments. This law did not provide any penalties, however, and was largely ignored. In 1956, the time question was placed on the general election ballot and presented to voters. They were asked whether or not they supported CST or Eastern Standard Time (EST) as the official time of Indiana. Of the total votes favoring CST or EST, approximately 55 percent were in favor of CST as the official time of Indiana. Of this percentage, only 45 percent favored the use of DST during the summer months.

In 1961, the General Assembly repealed the 1956 law. This legislative action officially adopted EST throughout the year. The U.S. Uniform Time Act of 1966 required the observance of DST, in the Eastern Time Zone, from the last Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October each year. In 1969, an Indiana House bill originated to exempt Indiana from DST, in the Eastern Time Zone, but was vetoed by Governor Edgar D. Whitcomb. Throughout 1969 and 1970, all of Indiana observed DST, and Gov. Whitcomb's veto was overridden in 1971. In 1989, Indiana law changed from the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in April as the start of DST observance in order to comply with federal law. Currently, most of Indiana is in the Eastern Time Zone and does not observe DST.

For Indiana to observe DST, the General Assembly would have to pass a bill to repeal the current law. Surveys across the state have shown that Hoosiers are split pretty evenly on whether or not we should follow most of the nation in observing DST. If such legislation reaches the floor of the House or Senate, many representatives and senators will have a difficult time deciding which side to take.

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## upcoming events in the indiana statehouse

- January 18 — Governor's annual "State of the State" address
- January 18 — Last day senators may file bills
- January 19 — Supreme Court Chief Justice's annual "State of the Judiciary" Address

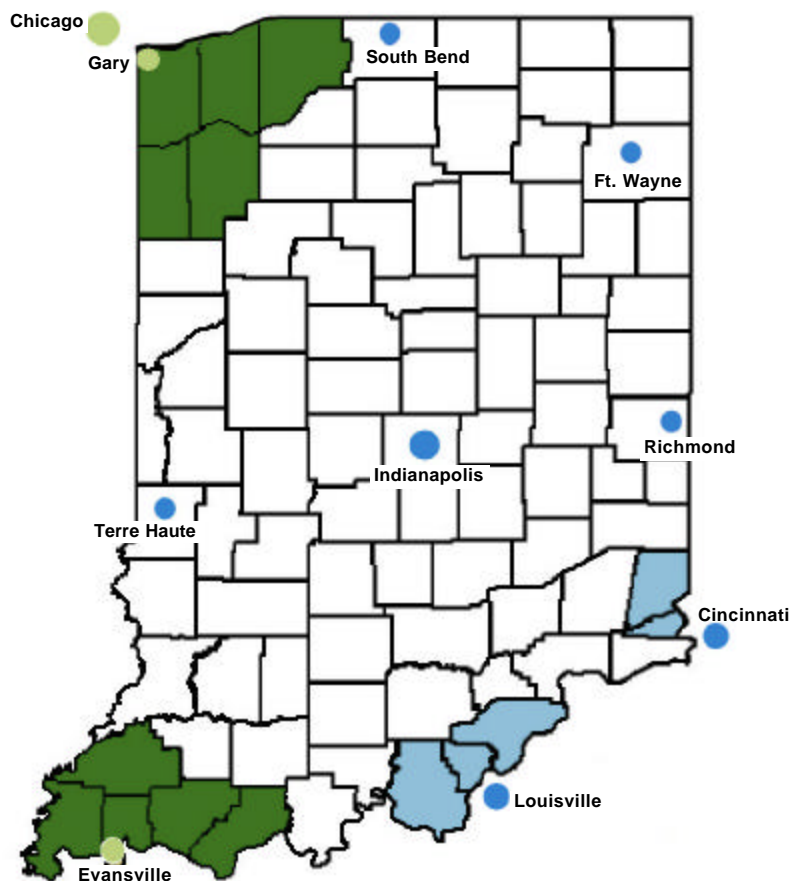
# DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

## WHAT TIME IS IT IN INDIANA?

IT DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU ARE!

Indiana is one of only three states that do not change the clocks twice a year. In our state, 82 counties are in the Eastern Time Zone and 10 counties are in the Central Time Zone. There are five counties in southeast Indiana (**Clark, Dearborn, Floyd, Harrison and Ohio**) that observe DST in the Eastern Time Zone. In northwest Indiana, there are five counties (**Lake, LaPorte, Jasper, Newton and Porter**) and in southwest Indiana, there are five counties (**Gibson, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick**) that observe DST in the Central Time Zone.

- Green counties are in the Central time zone and observe DST.
- Blue counties are in the Eastern time zone and observe DST.
- White counties are in the Eastern time zone and do not observe DST.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://webexhibits.org/daylightsaving>

[www.timeanddate.com/time/aboutdst.html](http://www.timeanddate.com/time/aboutdst.html)

[www.indystar.com/library/factfiles/history/time/index.html](http://www.indystar.com/library/factfiles/history/time/index.html)

### CURRENT TIME OBSERVANCE

**Sunrise: 5:30 a.m.** **Sunrise: 8:00 a.m.**

77 Indiana counties do not observe Daylight Saving Time. In the fall, these counties coincide with the Eastern time zone and in the spring, they coincide with the Central time zone.

**Sunset: 8:12 p.m.** **Sunset: 5:20 p.m.**

SUMMER WINTER

### EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME

**Sunrise: 6:30 a.m.** **Sunrise: 8:00 a.m.**

If Indiana were in the Eastern time zone and observed Daylight Saving Time, daylight hours from late October to early April would move back one hour.

**Sunset: 9:12 p.m.** **Sunset: 5:20 p.m.**

SUMMER WINTER

### CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME

**Sunrise: 5:30 a.m.** **Sunrise: 7:00 a.m.**

If Indiana were in the Central time zone and observed Daylight Saving Time, daylight hours from late October to early April would move one hour later.

**Sunset: 8:12 p.m.** **Sunset: 4:20 p.m.**

SUMMER WINTER